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Recent News



It was a pleasure to see some familiar faces at the Capitol this week as the delegation from Nacogdoches and Stephen F. Austin State University came to celebrate their achievements during our biennial Nacogdoches-SFA Days at the Capitol. I was proud that so many of my fellow House members from across the state met with our delegation to learn about the great things happening in our neck of the woods.

Around the Capitol, the pace of business is quickening as each of the filed bills is referred to its respective committee. We have begun our bill hearings in the Higher Education Committee and in the Local and Consent Calendars Committee. With a little less than 100 days remaining in the legislative session, the pace of committee work will quicken and increase as we discuss legislation pending in the House. The last day to file legislation is March 8.



In our District, I have been working closely with Senator Robert Nichols and Commissioner Jeff Austin of the Texas Transportation Commission on the expansion of the US 69 hurricane evacuation route in the City of Wells. The present configuration of the highway results in bottlenecking traffic during times when a safe, smooth evacuation for our coastal residents is essential. This project will prevent future gridlock for evacuees and improve the existing infrastructure in the southern portion of Cherokee County. I commend Senator Nichols and Commissioner Austin for their leadership on this project and look forward to the completion of this important project.

Coming Up

My appointment to the newly-created committee on Special Purpose Districts provides me the opportunity to work directly on legislation regarding many local government districts, including those pertaining to emergency services, crime control and prevention, municipal development, irrigation, water control and improvement, and river authorities. I am eager to take up these important local issues in our committee meetings, which begin the first week of March.

Resources

To keep up with what's going on in your Capitol please check my state website http://www.house.state.tx.us/members/member-page/?district=11. Also, you can keep track of legislation, bill analyses, witness lists, and committee hearings at www.capitol.state.tx.us -from both the House and Senate sides.